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The Sting: Summer 1995

Cedarville College

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STING

The Sports Information Publication of Cedarville College

Vol. 15 • No. 2

P.O. Box 601, Cedarville, OH 45314-0601

Summer 1995

End Of An Era

Don Callan Ends Legendary 35 Year Coaching Career

Don Callan, who built Cedarville College basketball into one of the most well-respected programs in the NAIA, resigned from the head coaching position on April 7 following a legendary 35-year career. As athletic director, Callan immediately announced his successor culminating a two-month long process. Jeff Reep, who played for Callan in the 1970s and who has spent the past 11 years as an assistant coach at New Mexico State University, will take over the program.

"It has not been an easy decision because I have been here for 35 years and it has been my life," said Callan, 62. "I have confidence that I've made a good decision in replacing myself with someone of great ability and stature who has the same desire for athletics that I have at Cedarville. The timing was exactly right for me and Jeff Reep.

"I wanted to create a program at Cedarville that was really honoring to God, that was competitive, that attracted attention, yet gives a good image of the school and we've been able to accomplish that in 35 years. I guess it's time for someone else to take it another step and it's kind of neat to have one of my former players take my place. I thank the administration for letting me pick my successor. To me, that was one of the great things they could do for me."

Callan closed out his career with eight straight 20-win seasons and a 579-423 record for a .578 winning percentage at the NAIA Division I school.

He ended the 1994-95 season as the third active winningest coach in the NAIA and is 19th on the NAIA's all-time win list.

"Cedarville has been blessed for 35 years to have a basketball coach like Dr. Don Callan," stated Dr. Paul Dixon, president of the college. "He has not only led us to successful seasons year in and year out on the court, but he has guided Cedarville College to a prominent place of esteem in college basketball within the state of Ohio, nationally, and internationally.

"Don Callan is not only held in high esteem at Cedarville, but he is the dean of small college basketball coaches in the state of Ohio. He is known for his integrity and his value system, yet the most important aspect of this man is that he has built the claims of Christ into the lives of all of his athletes."

Callan guided the Yellow Jackets to four Mid-Ohio Conference titles, three NAIA District 22 championships, plus two of

his teams were the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) national runner-up. He earned 11 separate Coach of the Year honors and he was twice named the NAIA District 22 Administrator of the Year.

Callan came to Cedarville in 1960 following a two-year stint at Winchester High School in

Indiana. He made a lifelong commitment to the school and he has become an institution himself. He will remain at the school as athletic director and chair of the Health and Physical Education Department.

Callan, who is a 1955 graduate of Taylor University in Indiana, has earned election into four Halls of Fame due to his accomplishments as an athlete and for his successful coaching at Cedarville. He has been inducted into the Taylor (1974), Cedarville (1984), NAIA (1990), and NCCAA (1991) Halls of Fame.

While Callan has demonstrated the ability to produce winning basketball teams, it is his involvement apart from the competitive athletic arena that is

just as legendary. In 1971, he founded Cedarville's Missionary Internship Service (MIS) in which each year, particularly in the summer, approximately 200 students, faculty, and staff take part in MIS by sharing the gospel around the globe through team and individual ministries.

Callan initiated the MIS program by taking a men's basketball team, known as the Athletes for Christ, to the Philippines in the summer of 1971. The ten-member unit generally tours the islands for five weeks sharing the gospel of Christ through basketball evangelism. During his career at Cedarville, Callan has coached and/or lectured in 11 countries around the world.

The NCCAA presented Cedarville with its first-ever Sports Ministries Award in 1990 and,



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An Inside Look At Coach Callan's Retirement

by Mark Womack,
Sports Information Director

I was one of the fortunate few who was present in the locker room when Coach Callan announced he was stepping down. I wish all of my teammates and everyone else whoever played for the man simply known as Coach could have been there, too.

On Friday, April 7, Jeff Reep decided late in the afternoon that he would accept Callan's offer to take over the Yellow Jacket basketball program. A hasty team meeting was organized consisting of the players, coaching staff, Reep, and myself.

The players had no idea what the meeting was for, nor did they have any reason to think that Coach was considering stepping down. You could sense the Lord's presence and direction as he emotionally announced his resignation to the team and introduced Reep as his handpicked successor.

Needless to say, the players were practically numb with shock as Coach spoke before turning the floor over to the new coach. It was the way he wanted it. Quiet and almost secretive with no fanfare or glitter.

In my opinion, there was no better place for Coach to pass on the torch than the locker room. A setting where 1,002 times before he instructed, encouraged, and prepared his teams for battle, yet a location where he prayed for and disciplined athletes.

I still can't imagine the jumble of emotions the Callans were feeling that day, or the ones they'll experience when the 1995-96 season tips off.

"I don't waver too often," said Callan, when asked recently if he still had peace about his decision. "There will still be some pain, but there was pain when I was doing it, too. I really don't think I'll second guess myself."

God was involved in Callan's career even before he made the move from Winchester High School in Indiana to Cedarville. While paying a visit to wife Nedra's hometown of Stryker, Ohio in the spring of 1960, her pastor, John Reed, challenged Callan to consider coaching at a Christian college like Cedarville. Ironically, Reed would later become a professor at the school.

Callan talked with then-president James Jeremiah and found out the job wasn't even open at the time. Less than a month later, Jeremiah called him and offered him the job. Callan immediately accepted even though he would take nearly a 60-percent pay cut, plus he had never before even seen a Yellow Jacket game.

"There was always a sense of enthusiasm at the games, even though it was on a smaller scale when we played in Alford Auditorium," Callan recalled. "I never looked back at my decision to come, but youth does that to you and I was 27 at the time. I made a commitment to work with Christian young men and the Lord was in it every step of the way."

I couldn't help but think of all of the young men's lives, including my own, that Coach had touched as I walked out of that lockerroom and gave him a hug of appreciation. I wish all of my teammates and everyone else whoever played for the man known as Coach could have been there, too. ☺

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CALLAN'S COMMENTS

"No One Is Exempt"



Dr. Don Callan
Athletic Director

While going through the process of retirement from coaching basketball, I found myself processing information regarding fitness to continue both physically and mentally. I wrestled with self worth and being in the spotlight as opposed to fading into the background.

I spent a great deal of time thinking about the aging process and energy level and how it related to me. In most instances, I thought I could go on indefinitely, but still felt if I wanted the best for the future of the Cedarville basketball program I must consider other things. I felt I must apply biblical principles to my considerations as I have these many years to other people's problems.

My first consideration was regarding life itself. The bible speaks to the issue of aging and the continuation of a program. We all age and come to the time of slowing down, retirement, and the ultimate fact of death itself.

The bible says in Hebrews 9:27 that, "It is appointed to man once to die, but after that the judgment." We all have that appointment, and thus it is important that we make proper preparation for that inevitable time. The bible speaks expressly to this point where it says, "Boast not yourself about tomorrow; for you don't know what the day will bring. Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation (Proverbs 27:1; 2 Corinthians 6:2)."

I took care of that issue many years ago when I took the advice of a friend who told me to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved, because as many as receive Him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God, even to those who believe on His name" (Acts 16:31; John 1:12). I trust you also have made that decision because it is personal and a relationship with Jesus Christ is accessed by faith alone.

My second consideration was how to ensure that the same emphasis we have had in the past will continue in the future. My goal when I began at Cedarville was to impact young men spiritually through the medium of athletics. I thought I could ensure that direction by seeking to provide a coaching staff who also had this as a primary emphasis. I felt I accomplished that in hiring Jeff Reep, who feels strongly about doing the same.

Keeping Pete Reese, a longtime friend and co-coach for the past seven years, only added to that confidence. Casey Wood, a student assistant for four years and second assistant for the past two years, along with student assistant Billy Curry have been retained also. All four have received their education at Cedarville.

My third consideration was timing. After a good season last year, under the outstanding leadership of El Seabra, Matt Reynolds, and Josh Rang, plus with a good nucleus returning and a fine group of recruits coming in, it seemed like a good time to end a career that began 40 years ago as a junior high coach in Peru, Indiana. By stepping down now, I would give Jeff, Pete, Casey, and Billy a chance to get off to a good beginning.

These factors plus the leading of the Lord and the peace He gives to those who trust Him gave me confidence that I was on the right track. In addition, my family supporting me in my thinking confirmed that I was making a good decision.

Some have asked, "Will you be happy giving up basketball?" My response is, I think decisions like this are tough, but in everyone's life there

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End Of An Era...

continued from front page

according to Callan, remains as one of his most satisfying honors. The award recognized two decades of resourceful spiritual outreach through Cedarville's athletic teams under the leadership of Dr. Callan.

Callan and his wife, Nedra, have been married for 39 years and she has been at his side nearly every step of the way, especially as a statistician for the past 20 years. The Callans have two married children. A daughter, Jan Leach, and her husband Mark, reside in Fairfield, Ohio along with their two children. The Callans also have son, Jon David, who lives in Cedarville with his wife, Karen, and their two children.

Reep, 39, has been an assistant at New Mexico State since 1984 and most recently held the title of associate head coach. He served under head coach Neil McCarthy, who has won over 400 games during a 20-year collegiate coaching career.



Jeff Reep

A 1978 graduate of Cedarville College, Reep is quite familiar with the program that he is taking over and the pressures, if any, of following Callan.

"I'm excited at this time," said Reep, who officially assumed his new position on July 1. "I think it's a great opportunity and the program is in real good shape. A lot of times, as a new coach, you come into a program and normally it's down and that's the reason there's been a change, but to come into a program where it's going well makes it even more exciting.

"There's no question that there is a certain amount of pressure. I feel as though I have been a part of Dr. Callan having played for him, remaining close to him, and close to the program. It's important to keep the program on the same track that it is going."

When asked about the reason for the move from New Mexico State to Cedarville, Reep stated, "There are a lot of reasons—this is my alma mater, it's closer to my parents as well as my wife's parents, plus for family reasons, I should have the opportunity to be home a little more. I'm excited about having the opportunity to run my own program and I look forward to being here for a long time."

Reep will also serve as an instructor in the Health and Physical Education Department. He and his wife, Criss, who is also a Cedarville College graduate, are the parents of four boys.

New Mexico State made postseason tournament appearances the last seven consecutive years, including NCAA berths from 1990 through 1994. The Aggies made it to the NIT quarterfinals this year and were the preseason NIT runners-up in November. The Aggies had a 25-10 record for their seventh straight 20-win campaign.

Prior to his tenure at New Mexico State, Reep spent the 1983-84 season as an assistant at Stetson University in Florida. He was a graduate assistant at Delta State in Mississippi from 1979-81 and served as an assistant coach at the school from 1981-83. Reep was the junior varsity coach at Cedarville for the 1978-79 season.

Reep played four years under Callan from 1974-78 and his 1,279 career points presently ranks 17th on the Yellow Jackets' all-time scoring list. He was a two-year captain, two-time Cedarville MVP, and was twice named to the All-Mid-Ohio Conference and All-NAIA District 22 teams. ☺

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1995 Yellow Jacket Fall and Winter Sports Schedules

Men's and Women's Cross Country

Sept. 2	at Asbury Invitational	10:00 (W)
	Wilmore, KY	10:45 (M)
Sept. 16	at Midwest Collegiate	12:00 (W)
	Kenosha, WI	12:45 (M)
Sept. 23	FRIENDSHIP INVITATIONAL	10:00 (W)
	JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK	10:40 (M)
Sept. 30	at Greensboro Invitational	1:00 (W)
	Greensboro, NC	1:30 (M)
Oct. 13	at Ohio Intercollegiate	2:00 (W)
	Delaware, OH	2:45 (M)
Oct. 21	at Gettysburg Invitational	11:00 (W)
	Gettysburg, PA	12:00 (M)
Nov. 4	MID-OHIO CONFERENCE	10:15 (W)
	JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK	11:00 (M)
Nov. 11	NCCAA NATIONALS	10:00 (W)
	JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK	11:00 (M)
Nov. 18	at NAIA Nationals	10:30 (W)
	Kenosha, WI	11:45 (M)

*HOME MEETS IN CAPS

Men's Soccer

Sept. 2	at Mt. Vernon Nazarene*	2:00
Sept. 5	at Denison	4:00
Sept. 8-9	at Bryan Tournament	TBA
Sept. 14	at Otterbein	4:00
Sept. 16	TIFFIN*	2:00
Sept. 19	at Bluffton	4:00
Sept. 23	WALSH*	2:00
Sept. 27	at Malone*	4:00
Sept. 30	at Huntington	1:00
Oct. 4	WITTENBERG	3:30
Oct. 7	at Indiana Wesleyan	2:30
Oct. 10	WILMINGTON	4:00
Oct. 12	at Ohio Dominican*	4:00
Oct. 18	RIO GRANDE*	3:30
Oct. 21	ASBURY (Homecoming)	3:00
Oct. 25	at Findlay*	4:00
Oct. 28	at Shawnee State*	1:00
Nov. 4	at Ashland	1:00

HOME MATCHES IN CAPS

*Mid-Ohio Conference Matches

Women's Volleyball

Sept. 1-2	at Michigan-Dearborn Tournament	TBA
Sept. 5	FINDLAY*	7:00
Sept. 7	at Shawnee State*	7:00
Sept. 8-9	CEDARVILLE INVITATIONAL	TBA
Sept. 12	at Tiffin*	7:00
Sept. 13	at Kenyon	7:00
Sept. 16	at Bethel	TBA
Sept. 21	OHIO DOMINICAN*	5:30
Sept. 22-23	at Ohio Wesleyan Invitational	TBA
Sept. 26	at Urbana*	7:00
Sept. 29	WALSH*	7:00
Sept. 30	MALONE*	1:00
Oct. 3	MT. VERNON NAZARENE*	7:00
Oct. 5	SHAWNEE STATE*	7:00
Oct. 12	at Ohio Dominican*	7:00
Oct. 13	at St. Francis	TBA
Oct. 16	at Findlay*	7:00
Oct. 18	at Rio Grande*	7:00
Oct. 20-21	at NCCAA District III (Taylor)	TBA
Oct. 23	URBANA*	7:00
Oct. 26	at Mt. Vernon Nazarene*	7:00
Oct. 27	at Walsh*	7:00
Oct. 28	at Malone*	1:00
Oct. 31	TIFFIN*	6:30
Nov. 1	RIO GRANDE*	6:00
Nov. 7	CENTRAL STATE	7:00
Nov. 10-11	at Mid-Ohio Conference Tournament	TBA

HOME MATCHES IN CAPS

*Mid-Ohio Conference Matches

Women's Basketball

Nov. 10	CEDARVILLE TIP-OFF CLASSIC	4:30, 6:30
	(Grace, Spring Arbor, Wilberforce)	
Nov. 11	CEDARVILLE TIP-OFF CLASSIC	1:00, 3:00
Nov. 14	GEORGETOWN	5:00
Nov. 17	at Huntington Tournament	6:00, 8:00
	(Huntington, Olivet Nazarene, Trinity Christian)	
Nov. 18	at Huntington Tournament	1:00, 3:00
Nov. 21	at Taylor	7:00
Nov. 28	at Bluffton	7:30
Dec. 1	at Oakland City Invitational	6:00, 8:00
	(Teams to be announced)	
Dec. 2	at Oakland City Invitational	12:00, 2:00
Dec. 5	MOUNT ST. JOSEPH	7:00
Dec. 9	at Findlay*	1:00
Dec. 12	at Mt. Vernon Nazarene*	7:00
Dec. 16	RIO GRANDE*	7:00
Dec. 19	at Ohio Dominican*	7:00
Jan. 4	at Liberty	3:00
Jan. 6	at Tiffin*	2:00
Jan. 9	at Walsh*	7:00
Jan. 13	at Urbana*	2:00
Jan. 16	SHAWNEE STATE*	7:00
Jan. 18	OHIO DOMINICAN*	5:00
Jan. 20	at Malone*	2:00
Jan. 23	FINDLAY*	7:00
Jan. 27	MT. VERNON NAZARENE*	5:00
Jan. 30	at Rio Grande*	7:00
Feb. 1	TIFFIN*	7:00
Feb. 3	WALSH*	5:00
Feb. 6	URBANA*	5:00
Feb. 10	at Shawnee State*	5:00
Feb. 13	MALONE*	7:00
Feb. 17	WILMINGTON	5:00

HOME GAMES IN CAPS

*Mid-Ohio Conference Games

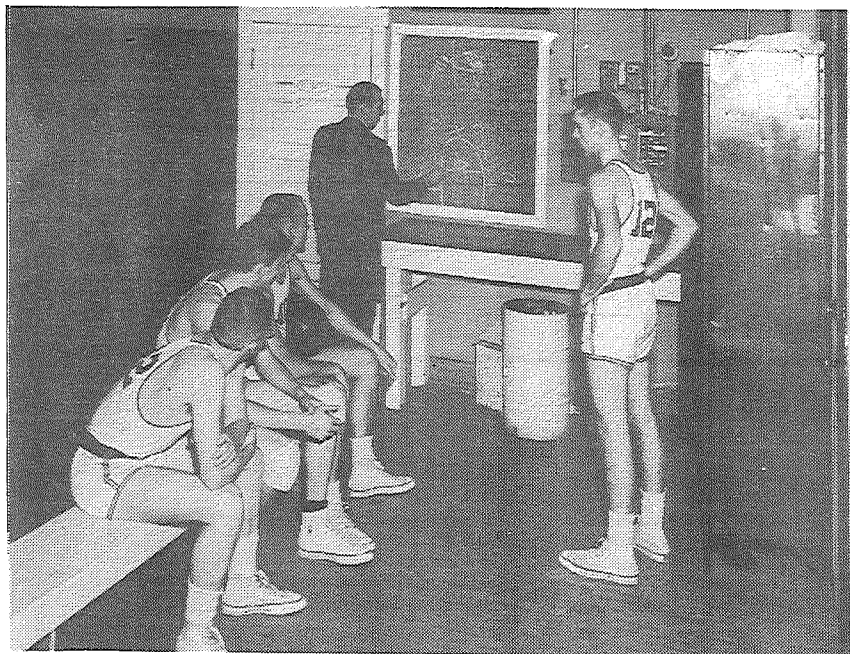
Men's Basketball

Nov. 10	ROBERT MORRIS	8:30
Nov. 11	ATHLETES IN ACTION	7:30
Nov. 14	MICHIGAN-DEARBORN	7:30
Nov. 17-18	CEDARVILLE INVITATIONAL	6:00, 8:00
	(Indiana-East, Multnomah, Wilfrid Laurier)	
Nov. 21	TEMPLE BAPTIST	7:30
Nov. 27	at Ashland	7:30
Dec. 1	Wilberforce (at Malone)	6:00
Dec. 2	Huntington (at Malone)	1:00
Dec. 9	at Ohio Dominican*	7:30
Dec. 12	at Madonna	7:00
Dec. 16	at Tiffin*	7:30
Dec. 29	CEDARVILLE HOLIDAY CLASSIC	6:00, 8:00
	(Cumberland KY, St. Clair ONT, Temple Baptist)	
Dec. 30	CEDARVILLE HOLIDAY CLASSIC	2:00, 4:00
Jan. 4	WALSH*	7:30
Jan. 6	MALONE*	7:30
Jan. 9	OHIO DOMINICAN*	7:30
Jan. 11	at Rio Grande*	7:30
Jan. 13	at Shawnee State*	7:30
Jan. 16	at Urbana*	7:30
Jan. 20	MT. VERNON NAZARENE*	7:30
Jan. 23	at Michigan-Dearborn	7:30
Jan. 27	URBANA*	7:30
Jan. 30	at Mt. Vernon Nazarene*	7:30
Feb. 1	at Findlay*	7:30
Feb. 3	TIFFIN*	7:30
Feb. 6	WILBERFORCE	7:30
Feb. 8	at Walsh*	7:00
Feb. 10	at Malone*	7:30
Feb. 15	RIO GRANDE*	7:30
Feb. 17	SHAWNEE STATE*	7:30
Feb. 24	FINDLAY*	7:30

HOME GAMES IN CAPS

*Mid-Ohio Conference Games

IMAGES OF COACH CALLAN



Coach Callan diagrams a play in the locker room of the old Alford Auditorium.



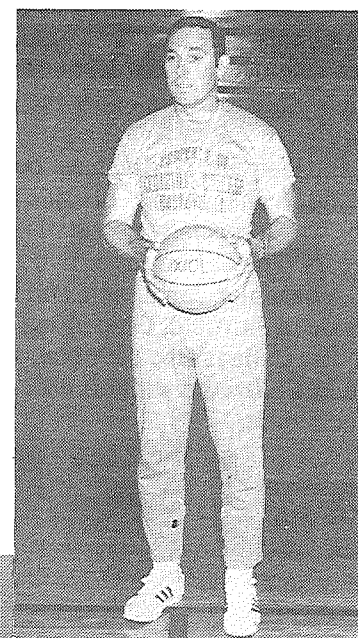
Shown with Callan in this mid-1970s shot are Kevin Waiters (kneeling) along with (from left) Jeff Reep, Dave Wood, Don Smith, and Bob Melford.



This early 1960s photo shows Callan standing in between the top two rebounders in Yellow Jacket basketball history—Gary Walthall (left) and the legendary Dozier Carter, who is the all-time leader.

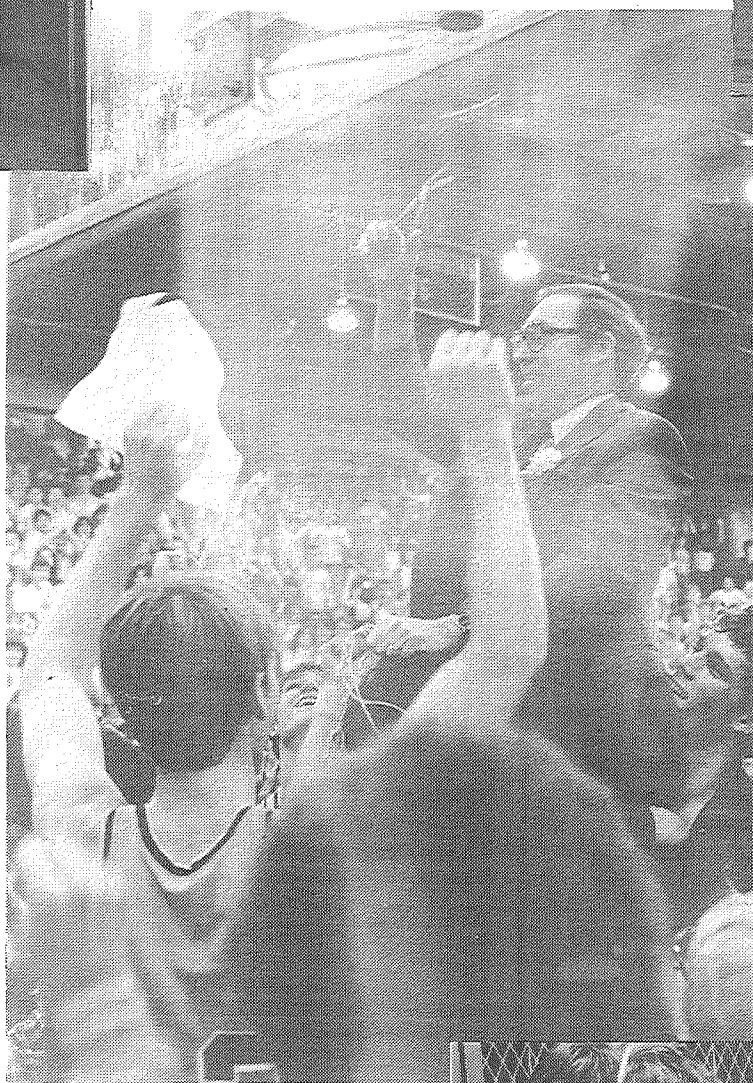
"I have great respect for Don on and off the court. Although we have had some great battles as competing coaches, I have an even greater appreciation for him as a fellow brother in Christ."

Scott Flemming
Mt. Vernon Nazarene College



"The true test of greatness in anything is one's ability to withstand the tests of time. Dr. Callan has certainly done this and left large footprints as an administrator and coach in the MOC."

Ed DiGenova
Ohio Dominican College



March 4, 1981—Callan cuts down the net after the Yellow Jackets' thrilling 80-78 victory over Defiance in the NAIA District 22 championship game. It was the last game ever played in the Student Center Gymnasium and the win gave Cedarville its first NAIA National Tournament berth in 17 years.

"Don Callan is a role model for all coaches. He truly epitomizes the meaning of sportsmanship and integrity. He's a class act."

Jim Arnzen
Shawnee State University



Callan's Corner, which followed every Yellow Jacket basketball game broadcast on the CDR Radio Network, was Ohio's longest continuous running sports feature.

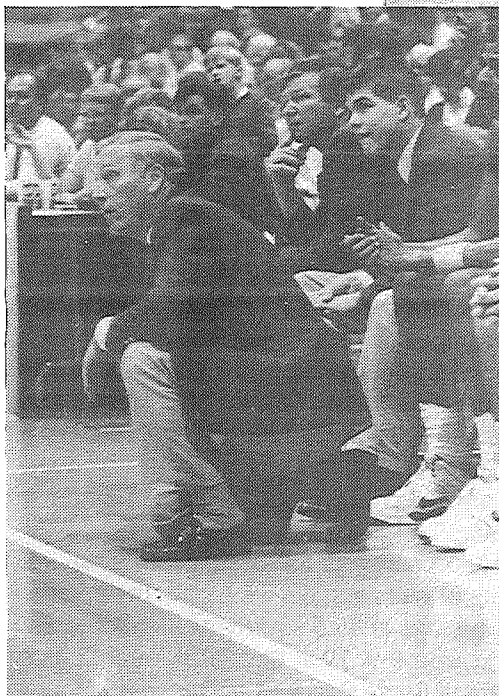
"Don's career accomplishments in coaching speak for themselves. More importantly, he is always a gentleman and a positive influence on both his players and the game."

Ron Niekamp
University of Findlay

Callan works the
Athletic Center sideline.



Callan instructs his team on the sidelines during a timeout versus Waynesburg College at the 1981 NAIA Nationals in Kansas City's Kemper Arena.



Callan kneels on the sideline as trusted assistants Pete Reese (left) and Casey Wood look on from the bench.

"I praise the Lord for men like Don Callan who have lived their lives as examples to what coaching as a Christian in a Christian college should be. I view Don as a mentor upon whom I could call for counsel and for fellowship. I will miss him on the sidelines."

Hal Smith
Malone College

A Player's Perspective

by Josh Rang

The following is reprinted by permission of *Cedars*.

Josh Rang was a senior guard on the 1994-95 Yellow Jacket basketball team.

Yellow Jacket basketball will never be the same. The hollow bounce of the ball will fill Stranahan Gymnasium with memories that have made Cedarville College and Coach Don Callan one of the most respected teams in the NAIA.

No longer will one look across the floor, over Brent Miller's head as he brings the ball up the floor, to the Cedarville bench and find (assistant coaches) Pete Reese and Casey Wood leaning to their right, close to Coach Callan, deciding what play to run. Someone will make the call, but Coach Callan's seat will be filled with another. The screams, whistles, and slam dunks will all seem distant as people continue to reflect and remember with thankfulness the long legacy Coach Callan has left behind.

I for one am very grateful for the influence Coach Callan has had in my life. However, I do not think that I really knew how much influence he had on me until faced with the reality that I would never dress in a Cedarville jersey again.

The final horn echoed in my head as I walked off the court for the last time. In the warm Rio Grande lockerroom I fought back tears as I hugged Coach Callan and realized that I loved and respected the man more than I had ever known. I had no idea that after playing three years of Cedarville basketball it would be so difficult to end.

I can still remember the first time that I met Coach Callan. He drove to Fort Wayne (Indiana) to watch one of my high school games. He didn't talk to me after the game, as most coaches did, trying to sell themselves and their program. Instead, he drove back to Fort Wayne some time later on a Saturday morning to sit down with my parents and me in our own home. He was very simple and straightforward. He was different.

In the spring of my senior year, I was trying to decide where I wanted to attend college after high school. I knew that one of the most important things to look for was a good coach, but I didn't know a good coach when I saw one. I wanted to like the man I would be seeing almost every day of the week for the entire year.

I wanted to respect the man from whom I would be taking directions, for whom I would be running sprints, for whom I

had spent my life refining my basketball skills. I wanted him to care about me, not just basketball. I wanted all these things, yet I didn't know what type of man would be this coach. I searched many schools and talked to all different types of coaches, hoping to find the right man. The longer I looked, the more they all seemed to be the same.

When I transferred to Cedarville my sophomore year, I realized that one major difference existed between Coach Callan and the many coaches I had talked to in the past. Coach Callan put God before everything else. Not one other coach mentioned their relationship with God to me or took a genuine interest in my walk with Christ. I also know that not many other coaches pray with their team every day. Nor do other coaches take time, some days thirty minutes or more out of an already short practice time, to talk with his team about what God has been teaching him in his own life. Coach Callan made those type of things a priority. Yes, he wanted to win, but everything was in perspective; he wanted to serve Christ first.

Coach Callan reached me. His love for God and his consistent walk screamed at me. He became the man I wanted to be around almost every day for the entire year. He became the man I wanted to work hard for and wear a uniform for. He became the man I wanted to do those things for, simply because he was the only man who gave more to me than I could ever give to him.

Upon returning to Cedarville in the future and visiting Stranahan Gymnasium, the screams and whistles will be very distant. The students will still pack the stands as the odor of hot, smashed bodies fills the air. The pep band will still be playing, and the players will still be running up and down the floor. The sights will all be the same, but for me, something will be missing. I will not be able to wipe from my mind how much of an influence Coach Callan had on me and all the other players throughout the years who have had the privilege and honor of calling Don Callan, Coach. **S**



Spring Sports Wrap-Up

Baseball

The Cedarville College baseball season resulted in a 10-22 campaign but that did not hinder the performance of junior outfielder Steve Mays. He was voted to the All-Mid-Ohio Conference team for the third consecutive year after ranking second in the league with a .420 batting average.

Mays was again tabbed the team's MVP after another outstanding season. He led the Yellow Jackets with 112 at bats, 47 hits, 29 runs scored, nine doubles, and four triples. He stole 15 bases in 18 attempts, struck out just six times in 124 plate

appearances, and was one of only two players to play in all 32 games. Mays earned a spot on the All-NCCAA District I team and he was an NCCAA All-America honorable mention choice.

"Steve Mays is simply a solid all-around baseball player," head coach Norris Smith declared. "He has been our best and most consistent player all three years he has been in the program."

Senior outfielder David Geiger, who was the other player to appear in all 32 games, was the only other .300-plus hitter with a .356 average with

seven doubles and a team-high 17 walks. He was named to the All-NCCAA District I team as was freshman infielder Josh Lunney who batted .296.

Junior righthander Clint Miller had an excellent effort on the mound with a 2.21 earned run average but his record was just 2-6. The Jackets were 3-9 in one-run games and Miller was on the short end of four of those close setbacks.

"We were competitive this year, but it was disappointing in that we didn't win as much as we could have," said Smith. "We were in a lot of games and had difficulty winning the close ones."

Matt Robinson, Jeff Bowen, and Paul Melvin joined Geiger as the seniors on the roster. Robinson was 3-2 on the mound and Bowen stole 18 bases in 20 attempts. ☞



Steve Mays

Seven Jackets Earn NAIA All-America Track & Field Honors; Women Repeat As NCCAA Champions

Cedarville College successfully defended its National Christian College Athletic Association women's track and field title, plus the Yellow Jackets had seven NAIA All-Americans to highlight the 1995 outdoor season. The Lady Jackets won the NCCAA banner for the fourth time by blowing away the field by 120 points on the home track. The women also won back-to-back titles in 1985 and 1986. For the second year in a row, the Yellow Jacket men finished second in the NCCAA.

The season brought to a close the record-setting career of Stephanie Sherman. The Watertown, New York native was the NAIA Outdoor Triple Jump National Champion for the second time and broke her own school record in the process with a 42-foot effort on her final jump. Sherman leaves the Lady Jacket program as a ten-time NAIA All-American.

Joy Beitler was sixth in the high jump and Julianne Pletcher finished sixth in the 10,000 meter run as both earned NAIA All-America honors (top six finishers). On the men's side, Chad Eder was second in the 5,000 meter race walk, Kevin Conkel was fifth in the marathon, Bobby Polack was fifth in the triple jump, and Pete Simons placed fifth in the 3,000 meter steeplechase.

Sherman was named the Outstanding Female Performer of the NCCAA meet after winning three individual events and being part of both winning relay teams. A 12-time NCCAA champion, she broke her own meet record in the triple jump at 38-feet five-inches to go along with victories in the long jump and 100 meter hurdles.

Paul Orchard was voted NCCAA Women's Coach of the Year and senior Jennifer Zenner was presented the Wheeler Award as the outstanding female track and field Athlete of the Year in the NCCAA. Zenner, who was also the Wheeler Award winner in cross country, was part of the NCCAA winning 4 x 400 meter relay team plus was named to the NAIA and NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athlete teams.

Pletcher won both the 3,000 and 5,000 meter runs in the NCCAA meet while Beitler claimed the high jump title and also ran on the 4 x 400 meter relay squad along with Debbie Trimble. Other NCCAA winners were Michelle Burson in

the 10,000 and Courtney Kilburn in the discus. Joining Sherman on the 4 x 100 meter relay team were Laura Glessner, Sara Jackson, and Sylene Graves. Tiffany Shaw and Cindy Hasselbring joined Zenner as NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athletes.

The Yellow Jacket men had five NCCAA All-Americans. The individual winners were Conkel in the 10,000, Polack in the triple jump, and Jon Plush in the pole vault. Chris Melkonian and Linton Ellis joined Plush and Polack on the winning 4 x 100 meter relay unit.

Orchard summarized the outdoor campaign by saying, "Our women had an outstanding season. Our performance in the NCCAA meet showed that we had a lot of people up front and plenty of depth. The women should still be strong next year."

"The men lacked depth this year but we still had four NAIA All-Americans. A few people scored a lot of points for us this year and we expect a much better men's team next spring."

During the winter indoor season, Cedarville had four NAIA All-Americans (top six finishers). On the men's side, Joe Cunningham was second in the pole vault. In the women's division, Stephanie Sherman was second in the triple jump, Joy Beitler was fourth in the high jump, and Michelle Burson placed sixth in the 5,000 meter run. ☞



All-America runners Julianne Pletcher (right) and Michelle Burson set the pace in the 5,000 meter run at the NCCAA Nationals.



Kevin Conkel was the NCCAA and Mid-Ohio Conference 10,000 meter champion, plus he was an NAIA All-American in the marathon.

Golf

It was a year of transition for the Cedarville College golf program under first-year coach Jim Kragel. The Yellow Jacket linksters had nine newcomers on the 11-player roster, eight of which were freshmen and sophomores.

Kragel summed up his initial season at the helm by stating, "We knew it would be a tough year and it was a good experience for all involved. We want to continue to develop our golf program into a highly competitive one and we realize it may take some time."

Toby Jacobson was one of the team's two returning players and the junior maintained the lowest average at 85.5 strokes per 18 holes. He fired a season-low 79 at the Tiffin Invitational.

Freshman Steve Burchett averaged 86.5 but played his best golf of the season at the 36-hole Mid-Ohio Conference tournament. He carded back-to-back rounds of 78 and his 156 total left him just three strokes shy of earning a spot on the All-MOC team.

Mt. Vernon Nazarene claimed the 14th Annual Cedarville Invitational for the second straight time at the Reid Park North Course in Springfield. The only time the Yellow Jackets have won their own event was in the initial tournament in 1982 and this time they placed fourth. Troy Page, another of the squad's newcomers, posted an 85.

Cedarville placed third at the Tiffin Invitational and was fourth at the Urbana Invitational and the NCCAA District III Tournament. The Jackets finished sixth out of eight schools in the MOC Championships.

Page, a sophomore, had the third-lowest scoring average on the team at 88.4. Other varsity team members and their averages were junior Andy Lutz (88.8) and freshman Brad Umland (90.6). ☞

Men's Tennis

The 1995 Cedarville College men's tennis campaign featured a number of new faces. Alan Edlund took over the head coaching position from Murray Murdoch, who landed a spot in the NAIA Hall of Fame during his legendary 29-year career. The new coach, coupled with only one returning player from the varsity, forced the Yellow Jackets into a rebuilding year by their standards.

Cedarville finished with a 6-8 record in dual match competition. The Jacket netters wrapped up the season by placing fourth out of eight schools in the NAIA Great Lakes Sectional Tournament.

Todd Entner was the lone returning varsity performer and he responded with an outstanding effort. The senior from the Philippines played in the number five singles position last year, but this spring he was forced up to the number one spot. Entner raised his game to another level and was seeded second in the Great Lakes tournament where he advanced to the quarterfinals. He finished the season with a 12-5 singles mark and closed out his career 43-13 overall.

Women's Tennis

The Lady Jacket tennis team rolled to a 7-4 record and finished a close second in the Mid-Ohio Conference Championships. Coach Pam Johnson's unit was in the hunt for an NAIA National Tournament berth again despite being very young. The roster included two juniors, four sophomores, and four freshmen.

Johnson summarized the season by saying, "We were disappointed with a couple of our losses, but I think it was indicative that we still have a fairly young team. We had a good experience at the conference tournament and it was a positive maturing process for us as we look to next year."

Junior performer Melissa Hartman moved up to the number one singles spot and responded with a 9-4 record to up her career mark to 31-7. She was voted to the All-MOC team in both singles and doubles. Sophomore Hasmine Gmuer earned the same honors from the MOC after going 11-3 in the number two slot. She won the Flight No. 2 singles title in the conference tournament and is now 20-5 over her two-year career.

Sophomores Andrea Anthony, who was 9-5 in singles play, and Christine Gerard, 7-7, held down

Edlund said, "What Todd accomplished this year was incredible. He met the challenge of playing in the number one spot and responded in a positive way. He had an outstanding season and career."

Entner earned a spot on the NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete team for the second straight year. The honor is reserved for junior and senior varsity performers who maintain a minimum 3.50 cumulative grade point average.

The rest of the line-up had toiled in the junior varsity ranks in previous years and now had a chance to contribute. Those finishing the season on the varsity along with Entner were senior Jeff Nelson (5-8 singles record), junior Andy Kunkler (7-9), junior David Baker (2-5), sophomore Zach Ruffin (8-6), and junior Sean Fox (7-7). Ruffin and sophomore Anthony Torlone finished with the best doubles record at 4-3. Entner and Kunkler, who were 5-7 overall, advanced to the Great Lakes tournament quarterfinals. s

the numbers three and four positions, respectively. Freshman Mary Wolfe achieved an outstanding rookie season by going 10-4 and winning the MOC's fifth flight. Lesley Nester, another newcomer, was 6-5 in the number six slot.

Walsh totalled 37 points to cop the MOC championship while Cedarville had 35 points to finish second in the six-team field. The Jackets had players in five singles finals and two doubles finals but they were only able to claim the two singles flight championships.

The third doubles team of freshmen Wolfe and Jodi Muehling won their first seven matches of the season before dropping the MOC final. Hartman and Gmuer also lost in the final of the first flight and had a 6-3 record. Anthony and Gerard were 5-2 as the number two tandem.

Hartman was named an NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete. To be named to the team, players must be a junior or senior varsity performer with a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or greater. s

Women's Softball

The Lady Jacket softball team finished with a 16-25 record yet played well enough to qualify for the Mid-Ohio Conference Tournament. Cedarville struggled the first half of the season but the women split their final 20 games including five wins in their last eight outings.

The final record was somewhat deceptive. Head coach Kathy Freese watched her team play seven games against teams ranked in the NAIA Top 25 plus the Jackets were just 2-9 in one-run games.

"Our team showed considerable improvement," said Freese. "We ended the season on a positive note by playing in the MOC Tournament."

Junior shortstop Cindy Cremeans was voted to the All-MOC first team. She led the club with a .357 batting average which included nine doubles, two triples, and 28 runs scored. Cremeans always seemed to make contact with just two strikeouts and no walks in 148 plate appearances.

DiAnn Miller completed her career as a model of consistency both at the plate and in the field. She batted .336 which included a team-high ten doubles and was 10-14 with two saves on the mound while being named to the All-MOC second team. Miller, who holds numerous career school records, graduates as Cedarville's all-time leading hitter with a .366 career batting average.

"The secret to DiAnn's success was her resiliency and consistency," Freese commented. "She provided tremendous leadership, particularly in the last three seasons."

Sophomore third baseman Erika Miller was also tabbed to the All-MOC second team after batting .305. She set a school record with 140 assists in the field.

Jennifer Sloan was the only other senior on the team and she batted .276 while leading the club with 25 runs batted in. She also recorded 261 putouts, the second-highest total for a season at Cedarville, while splitting duties as a catcher and first baseman.

Penni Ruhl, a junior, handled the other half of the job behind the plate and also spent some time in the outfield. She hit .314 with team-highs of 29 runs scored and 17 walks.

Ruhl was named an NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete while she and Sloan were both named Mid-Ohio Conference Scholar-Athletes. The elite group includes junior and seniors who have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.50. s

No One Is Exempt

continued from page 2

is a time to step aside and let the next generation do their thing. Well, that's what I have done with the objective of assisting those who follow me becoming successful not only in winning, but in disciplining young men. My legacy will be determined by how well have I built the team of the future.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all those who made me have such a rewarding career as a basketball coach. You know who you are and you are my greatest supporters and friends. I will mention only one group—my family. They have helped, supported, and loved me through it all. At times that was tough I'm sure.

My children, Jan and J.D., were special as they joined Nedra in the odd hours, strange meal times,

and grumpy times of pressure. Nedra is my strength and helper. She is the one who encouraged, pushed, and pulled me through the tough times.

More recently the grandchildren, Joel and Annie Leach along with father Mark, plus Matt and Alyson Callan with mother Karen, have been a great source of encouragement. God has indeed been good to me and to Him belongs the praise.

What does the future hold for you? Regardless of the happenings in your life, whether exciting or dull, the bottom line is are you ready for the ultimate happening as appointed by God? Where do you stand with your life? s

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—STING PROFILE—

Stephanie Sherman Jumps Her Way Into Yellow Jacket Record Books

It came down to the final jump in the final meet of her senior season. One last chance for another national title. But it wasn't just any meet. It was the NAIA National Track and Field Championships in California.

Yet with all of the pressure, Yellow Jacket track and field standout Stephanie Sherman closed out a remarkable career at Cedarville College in storybook fashion. Her school-record 42-foot effort in the NAIA outdoor triple jump produced her second national title in the event in four years. Ironically, her other title came on her very first national meet jump during her freshman year in 1992.

"I remember reading in the NAIA meet program that I was referred to as the perennial runner-up in the triple jump," recalled Sherman, who finished second in the event three times at the NAIA national indoor meet and once outdoors. "I led going into the finals, but the girl I was competing against for the title popped a 41-foot jump on her fifth attempt to take the lead and that dumped the pressure back on me. I came to grips with the fact that God would be happy with my effort whether I finished first or second. It came down to that sixth and final attempt and I was very excited with the 42-foot jump."

While the NAIA performance ended Sherman's college experience, it slightly extended her overall competitive career. That 42-foot effort qualified her for the USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, California in mid-June.

"I qualified to the centimeter," said Stephanie, who was actually one of three Cedarville representatives who made the trip. "It is a chance of a lifetime."

Sherman's final jump at the NAIA meet was the perfect finish to a record-setting intercollegiate career. She was a ten-time NAIA All-American (top six finishers) by earning the honor six times indoors and four more outdoors.

Sherman never placed lower than third in the triple jump in eight appearances on the NAIA national level, four indoors and four outdoors. She also gained indoor All-America honors twice in the long jump.

"After my freshman year, I realized from then on I would like to finish in the top six at the meets I competed in," explained Sherman. "However, I don't base my goals on place, but what I can do for my performance and we'll see what happens from there when we get to the competition."

Cedarville track coach Paul Orchard remarked that Sherman's approach was team-oriented by saying, "Stephanie's number one goal was to do what she needed to do to help the team. She was definitely a positive influence on the team and she was very humble about her achievements."

Those characteristics of Sherman were never more apparent than at this year's National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA)

Championships which Cedarville hosted. She competed in five events, though according to Orchard she really didn't have to, and won all five as the Lady Jackets' MVP. She coasted to their second straight NCCAA banner.

Sherman was voted the Outstanding Female Performer of the Meet for the second time in three years after completing a four-year sweep of both the triple jump and long jump. She also won the 100 meter hurdles for the second straight year and was part of both the winning 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 meter relay teams. In four NCCAA appearances, Sherman was a 12-time national champion and holds the meet records in the triple and long jumps.

Sherman leaves Cedarville as arguably the school's most decorated track and field athlete. Her accomplishments prove that she probably could have competed at a higher level, so why did she choose the school?

"I wanted to attend a Christian college and that was something I stood firm on," Sherman

explained. "However, I wanted a school that was not primarily Bible, but also had liberal arts. I wanted a Christian school that had a good science program plus one that had a track team."

Sherman graduated with a 3.2 grade point average while earning a Bachelor of Arts in Biology with a secondary education emphasis. She also earned minors in Bible and Chemistry.

She was honored at graduation as one of three President's Award winners recognizing academics, campus involvement, and Christian character.

"Cedarville has been an excellent experience for me," said Sherman. "It's a school of balance and there are so many strong facets about the school. One thing that I will take with me that I think is common to most people are the chapel services every day. It's the consistency with the spirituality of the campus that I've grown as a person academically, plus matured more athletically and spiritually. I've been challenged here."

Sherman's immediate plans include getting married this summer with hopes of landing a teaching/coaching job. She'll take some time off from the competitive arena but she says she is definitely open to competing more in the future. ☺



Zenner, Entner Earn Scholar-Athlete Honors

Women's track and cross country runner Jennifer Zenner and men's tennis player Todd Entner were recognized as the top scholar-athletes at Cedarville College for the 1994-95 school year.

Zenner, a senior from Lansing, Michigan, was presented the June F. Kearney Award as the top female scholar-athlete. She graduated in June with a 3.89 grade point average as an English/Spanish major. She was a member of the Lady Jackets' NCCAA Championship track team plus ran for the cross country team that placed second at the NCCAA Nationals and ninth at the NAIA Nationals.

Zenner has been an NCCAA All-American in both track and cross country and won the NCCAA's coveted Wheeler award this year in both track and cross country. She was a track and cross country All-America Scholar-Athlete in both the NAIA and NCCAA.

The award honoring Cedarville's top female scholar-athlete is given in the name of Dr. June Kearney, who came to the College in 1962 and spent two decades at the school in the Health and Physical Education Department. At one time or another she coached four different sports at Cedarville, but now is an assistant women's basketball coach at California State University at Fullerton.

Entner, a senior from the Philippines, was presented the Donald E. Callan Award as the men's top scholar-athlete for the second straight year.

He graduated with a 3.93 GPA as an International Business major. As a member of the men's tennis team, he posted a 12-5 singles record despite moving from the number five position last year up to number one this spring.

Dr. Don Callan has served at Cedarville College since 1960 as athletic director and retired from coaching basketball in April after a successful 35-year career. He is a well-respected leader within the athletic arena and is a member of four Halls of Fame.

To be eligible for either award, a student must be a junior or senior athletically with at least 45 hours of course work at Cedarville. The student must carry a minimum 3.25 grade point average and be an active member of a varsity team. ☺

